

Blanchard, Deborah

From: Mark Vandervalk [markcv@att.net]

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2011 6:33 PM

To: judiciary@cga.ct.gov

Subject: Raised Bill #1094

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am writing to you today regarding the Raised Bill 1094, a bill to limit the number of rounds that a magazine can accept in a firearm, that is going to be presented for a public hearing. Unfortunately due to work obligations I will be unable to attend. However I hope that this letter will speak for me. I strongly urge you to **oppose** this bill. This legislation will do nothing to stop the gang members, drug dealers and any other criminals from perpetrating their crimes. They will not be lining up at their local police departments to hand in their "high capacity" magazines. The simple fact is they don't care at all about breaking firearms laws. All that is needed to do to prove that fact is look a little north to our neighbors in Massachusetts who have a ban on high capacity magazines, it has done nothing to stop the violence seen on their streets. Why do we think our state would be any different? This bill would only affect the law abiding citizens of our state, the ones that are not committing any crimes. To force them to hand in property that they legally purchased and that has never been used in a crime is unfair and unnecessary. It would force all of the lawful gun owners of Connecticut to purchase new magazines, at considerable expense in some cases. Is this what we want to force our citizens to do in a poor economy? I think not.

Are there things we need to be doing to stop the violence in our cities and towns? Without a doubt. However this bill is not one of them. Enforcing the laws on the books, keeping violent criminals in prison and educating our children about the dangers of the gang lifestyle and the abuse of drugs are things that will help. Not restricting the law abiding citizens of our state. So please take these thoughts into consideration during the hearing tomorrow, and use your voice and your vote to strike down this bill.

Thank you for your time,
Mark Vandervalk
Connecticut Resident